

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07  
EA-07 DHA-02 AF-10 NEA-10 /101 W  
-----055825 231110Z /12

O P 231020Z JUN 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4619  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
USMISSION USUN  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
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AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION NATO

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VIENNA ALSO FOR RUSIAEA

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FR UR

SUBJ: GISCARD PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER BREZHNEV VISIT

REF: PARIS 18415 AND PREVIOUS

1. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER BREZHNEV'S DEPARTURE  
GISCARD HELD PRESS CONFERENCE TO GET HIS MAIN POINTS  
EVEN MORE CLEARLY ON RECORD.

2. NEW POSITIONS:

GISCARD EXPLAINED FOR BENEFIT THOSE WHO HAD  
MISSED FINE PRINT OF DECLARATIONS

--THAT FRANCE IS AGREEABLE TO THE HOLDING OF A  
WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ALL  
REPEAT ALL NUCLEAR POWERS. (PRESS QUICKLY PICKED UP  
INFERENCE THAT CHINESE PARTICIPATION IS SINE QUA  
NON).;

--THAT FRANCE IS PREPARED TO RECONSIDER ITS  
ABSTENTION FROM CCD PROVIDED THERE IS REVIEW OF  
CO-PRESIDENCY SYSTEM AND THAT FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THIS  
ORGANIZATION "APPEARED SUBSTANTIAL"; AND

--THAT FRANCE IS STUDYING PROBLEMS OF NON-  
PROLIFERATION WHICH WILL DOMINATE FUTURE POLITICAL  
SCENE TO WHICH IT IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE.

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3. HUMAN RIGHTS AND DETENTE:

GISCARD THEN RETURNED TO QUESTION OF HUMAN  
RIGHTS AND DETENTE, RECALLING THE REFERENCE IN ONE OF  
THE "PRINCIPLES" LISTED IN DECLARATION ON DETENTE AS  
WELL AS ITS PENULTIMATE SENTENCE, WHICH STATES THAT  
THE "TWO PARTIES CONFIRM THAT RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS  
OF MAN AND FUNDAMENTAL LIBERTIES BY ALL STATES CON-  
STITUTES ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL BASIS FOR A  
PROFOUND IMPROVEMENT OF MUTUAL RELATIONS" (BETWEEN  
FRANCE AND USSR).

GISCARD ADDED THAT DETENTE IS A "CHOICE TO  
IMPROVE RELATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN COUNTRIES  
OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS"; THAT FRANCE  
HAD MADE THAT CHOICE; AND THAT FRANCE HAS CHOSEN TO  
REALIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS CHOICE. MOREOVER,  
FRANCE TOO FAVORS NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OF OTHERS AS WELL AS OF FRANCE. FRANCE IS NOT INSENSITIVE  
TO PROBLEMS OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN. INDEED, FRANCE  
HAS RECEIVED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF POLITICAL REFUGEES.  
AND EACH TIME IT DISCUSSES HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES WITH  
ANOTHER COUNTRY IN TERMS OF CONCRETE CASES IT OBTAINS

POSITIVE RESULTS. (COMMENT: CLEAR INFERENCE WAS TO REASSURE BREZHNEV THAT GOF WILL CONTINUE LOW-KEY, DISCREET APPROACH THIS FIELD, WITHOUT ABANDONING ITS POSITIONS IN PRINCIPLE. INCLUSION OF ABOVE-CITED PASSAGE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN DECLARATION OF DETENTE, WITH WHICH GOF IS VERY PLEASED, SHOWS THAT FRENCH POSITION HAD INDEED CUT BOTH WAYS.) GISCARD HIMSELF UNDERScoreD LATTER POINT BY SAYING THAT THIS IS FIRST TIME SUCH HUMAN RIGHTS TEXT APPEARS IN SOVIET BILATERAL COMMUNIQUE WITH ANOTHER MAJOR COUNTRY.

4. DISAGREEABLE ISSUES:

ASKED WHAT DISAGREEABLE ISSUES CAME UP, GISCARD CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD TO "EXPLAIN" TO SOVIET LEADER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NATURE OF FRANCE'S PARTICIPATION IN NATO AND IN A POSSIBLE EUROPEAN WAR. IF WE DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN A EUROPEAN CONFLICT, FRANCE WOULD FIND ITSELF ON THE SIDE OF ITS ALLIES." IT IS HENCE "NORMAL THAT TECHNICIANS STUDY THIS HYPOTHESIS".

5. NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE:

GISCARD CONFIRMED THAT USSR "DOES NOT SEEM READY" TO DEFINE ITS POLICY IN THIS AREA. SOVIETS DEAL WITH THIRD WORLD BILATERALLY. INEVITABLY, HOWEVER, SOCIAL-IST COUNTRIES WILL HAVE TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH A MULTILATERAL AID SYSTEM "LATER ON". (COMMENT: GISCARD WAS EVIDENTLY DISAPPOINTED THIS PET THEME HAD NOT CAUGHT ON).

6. AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST:

AFRICANS THEMSELVES SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE IN LIMITING ARMS IMPORTS. ON MIDDLE EAST GISCARD NOTED THE AGREEMENT REACHED BUT DUCKED DETAILS.

7. US-SOVIET RELATIONS:

ASKED ABOUT THIS POINT--SINCE PRESS HAD STRESSED EXTENT TO WHICH BREZHNEV COMPLAINED ABOUT VARIOUS CURRENT PROBLEMS IN US-USSR RELATIONS IN HUMAN RIGHTS, SALT AND OTHER FIELDS--GISCARD SAID THAT HE HAD IMPRESSION FROM HIS CONVERSATION WITH BREZHNEV THAT US-SOVIET RELATIONS CURRENTLY PASSING THROUGH A "MORE DIFFICULT PHASE". GAMMON

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